This is also taken from the Indian Explosives Act, and is very necessary in the circumstances of this country. The definition of "explosives", which we have now adopted, includes gun-powder, fire-works and similar substances which are very commonly used either for preventing the ravages of wild animals in the interior parts of the country or for festive occasions of almost everyday occurrence. It is not intended to place any restriction in such cases. In the absence of the power mentioned in the amendment, it will be necessary for all persons to take out licenses each time, which will doubtless cause a deal of hardship and inconvenience.

Seconded by Mr. Kuruvila.

Carried.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to move that the Bill as amended be passed, and that it come into force on the 6th Edavom 1079, *i. e.*, the date on which Regulation I of 1079 passed under the urgency clause will cease to have effect.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BILL FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose the few verbal amendments of which I have given notice :—

(1) In section 1, clause (2), substitute the words "The Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation, 1076" for "Regulation III of 1076."

(2) In section 6, substitute "cause" for "causes" in clause (1), line 6, and "care" for "cure" in clause 2, line 4 and clause 3, line 6; omit the words "under his own charge" in clause (3); and insert the word "the" between "for" and "work" in clause (3), line 9.

(3) In section 8, substitute the word "without" for "except with" and the words "or after" for "and except before."

Seconded by Mr. Govinda Pillai.

Carried.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to move that the Bill as amended be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

Mr. Ferguson.—It is appropriate that this Bill should be passed at this the last meeting at which I shall be present. I thank the Members of the Council for their kind assistance in enabling me to mould the Bill in such a manner as to safeguard the interests of the people, while affording the necessary relief to the dumb creatures whom the Bill seeks to protect from cruelty.

President.—Mr. Ferguson has done great service to this country in several respects, and the Bill which has now been passed is solely due to his efforts and bears ample testimony to his large-hearted sympathy for "the dumb and defenceless of God's creatures." He is now on the eve of his retirement, and it is pleasing to note that his connection with this Council closes with this measure of charity and mercy.

PLANTERS LABOUR BILL.

Mr. Rajaram Row.—In pursuance of the permission granted me at the last meeting of the Council, I beg now to introduce this Bill. I have nothing to add to what I have said at the last meeting and in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill. I now formally place the Bill before the Council and move that the discussion of the principle be postponed to the next meeting.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BREACH OF CONTRACT REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Rajaram Row.—This is merely a reproduction of the existing Regulation

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